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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Applicants DeBenedetti, Arrigo, et al. : Docket No: 101611/507550

Serial No. 09/916,017 : Group Art Unit: 1635

#13/N.T.

Filed: July 26, 2001 : Examiner: J. Angell

BK 6/10
w/dec.

For: CANCER GENE THERAPY BASED ON TRANSLATIONAL CONTROL OF A SUICIDE GENE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 22, 2003. In the prosecution of the above-identified application, please amend the claims as follows and consider the following remarks. The time for response has been extended for one-month.

a. Introductory Comments.

Applicants wish to express their sincere gratitude for the Examiner's time and consideration of the Examiner and the Examiner's Supervisor. The Examiner's candid comments regarding the application and cited references are especially appreciate as well. Detailed responses and comments to these concerns are detailed in the Remarks section, below.